

DETAILED ACTION

Reasons for Allowance

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Gregory Pletta (Reg. No. 47, 864) on December 10, 2004.

2. The application has been amended as follows:

Cancel claims 1-6, 8, 9, 12-19, 22, 25, 27, 28, and 36-39.

Replace "(c)" in step (c) of claim 20 with --- and---.

Replace "(d)" in step (d) of claim 20 with --- (c)---.

Replace "(e)" in step (e) of claim 20 with --- (d)---.

Delete ", if present" in steps (a) and (b) of claim 21.

Replace "triphasphate base" in step (d) of claim 21 with --- non-standard triphosphate base ---.

Replace "an extension product" in step b) of claim 24 with --- extension products---.

Replace "the tagged extension product of step (d)" in line 1 of step f) of claim 24 with --- the hybridization product of step (e)---.

Replace "the tagged extension product " in line 3 of step f) of claim 24 with --- the hybridization product of step (e)---.

Replace "(f)" in step g) of claim 24 with --- step (f)---.

Replace "the product of step (f)" in step f) of claim 26 with --- the hybridization product of step (e)---.

Replace "(d)" in claims 29 and 30 with ---(c)---.

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claims 20, 21, 24, 26, and 29-35 are allowable in light of the applicant's amendments filed on January 31, 2004 and the examiner's amendments. The closest prior art in the record are Wallace (WO 94/21820, published on September 29, 1994), Ugozzoli et al., (GATA, 9, 107-112, 1992) and Rust et al., (US Patent No. 5,605,794, published on February 25, 1997). These prior art either alone or in combination with the other art in the record does not teach or reasonably suggest the methods which comprise all of the limitations recited in claims 20, 21, 24, and 26.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

4. Papers related to this application may be submitted to Group 1600 by facsimile transmission. Papers should be faxed to Group 1600 via the PTO Fax Center. The faxing of such papers must conform with the notices published in the Official Gazette, 1096 OG 30 (November 15, 1988), 1156 OG 61 (November 16, 1993), and 1157 OG 94 (December 28, 1993)(See 37 CAR § 1.6(d)). The CM Fax Center number is (571)273-8300.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Frank Lu, Ph.D., whose telephone number is (571)272-0746. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 9 A.M. to 5 P.M.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, W. Gary Jones, can be reached on (571)272-0745.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Chemical Matrix receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0196.

Frank Lu
PSA
July 21,2005



FRANK LU
PATENT EXAMINER